

MOSACK'S

Church Goods & Religious Gifts



CELEBRATE SPRING!



For many of us it has been a long cold winter. The warmer temperatures, sultry breezes and sunny days bring the promise of new life as plants begin to grow. Hopefully our Lenten observance has also led to renewed spiritual growth and an awakening of faith. This issue is filled with information and gift giving ideas for celebrating sacramental milestones—Baptism, First Communion, Confirmation, Reception into the Church, and special relationships—Mothers, Fathers. We honor those who serve our country and send our graduates on to new horizons.

New products and suppliers are constantly being added to our store to meet customer needs. My Saint My Hero's Spring line features Serenity and Love Morse Code Prayer Ropes, Words of Wisdom Bracelet designs and Protection Necklaces. Seamstress Patti Balough is supplying beautiful handmade Christening Gowns, Baptismal Outfits for Boys, Communion Dresses, and Veils that are truly unique. Stop in to see our new offerings!

Our spiritual path discovers the Easter Joy of the resurrection, embraces the compassionate love of Divine Mercy Sunday, and faithfully follows Mary's example of bringing Christ to all we meet. We invite you to find ways to choose joy, forgive one another and live Mary's "yes" to all God asks.

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CELEBRATE FIRST COMMUNION

Whether you are receiving Holy Communion for the very first time, or have received for many years, come to the sacrament with the trusting heart of a child before God. St. Therese of Lisieux encourages us

"To remain a child before God means to recognize our nothingness to expect everything from God...to receive communion often, very often That is the only remedy if you want to be healed and Jesus has placed this attraction in your soul." (Letters of St Therese Vol 1).

See MOSACK'S Communion Gift Ideas on page 6.



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REJOICE ON PALM SUNDAY

Hold your palms high as you recall the triumphal entry of Jesus into Jerusalem at church today – then continue the celebration at home.

Jesus Centerpiece: place a statue or picture of Jesus at the center of your dinner table and lay palm branches around it.

Talk about ways to make Jesus the center of your life and your faith.

Blessed Palms are respected as sacramental, place them behind the crucifix in your home

HOLY WEEK PREPARATION DAYS Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday

Clean the House: Think of spring housekeeping as a prayerful preparation for Easter and celebrate all that is fresh and new.

Buy a Lily: The white flower heralds the resurrection of Jesus – share a plant with someone who needs to hear “good news”.

Color eggs: Decorated eggs are a symbol of new life that comes with the resurrection. Try writing “Alleluia” or “Christ is Risen” on the eggs with a crayon before coloring them.

GIVE THANKS ON HOLY THURSDAY

This day recalls the Last Supper when Jesus washed the feet of his disciples and shared a sacred meal with them. It reminds us that we are called to serve one another. Here are some ideas:

Attend church service: Listen to the readings that mark the beginning of the passion, death, and resurrection of Jesus.

Share a meal: If your church doesn't have a community meal, plan your own with neighbors or friends. Thank and serve one another.

Read and reflect: Read one of the Gospel accounts of the Last Supper and reflect on how this encounter with Jesus changed the disciples. How does it change you?

REMEMBER AND FORGIVE ON GOOD FRIDAY

This day commemorates the crucifixion, death, and burial of Jesus. It is the most solemn and sorrowful day of the Church Year.

Spend time in church: pray the Way of the Cross, attend services of the Passion, Veneration of the Cross, Seven Last Words, and Communion

Quiet time: Tradition places the events of Good Friday between 12 noon and 3:00 pm, turn off the computer or social media and read the bible account of Jesus' death.

Forgive: Imitate Jesus and reach out to someone who has hurt you. Forgive and forget! Celebrate the healing of your relationship.

Talk About those who have died and how we believe that, because of Jesus, we hope to rise to new life in heaven.

WELCOME LIGHT AND LIFE ON HOLY SATURDAY

This day commemorates the time of darkness and waiting when Jesus was in the tomb.

Volunteer as a family: Help decorate the church for Easter, or deliver baskets to the homebound.

Talk about the symbols of fire and water, signs of Jesus the light of the world and fountain of new life.



Easter Sunday Prayer

Lord God,
 you loved this world so much,
 that you gave your one
 and only Son,
 that we might be called
 your children too.
 Lord, help us to live in
 the gladness and grace
 of Easter Sunday, everyday.
 Let us have hearts
 of thankfulness
 for your sacrifice.
 Let us have eyes
 that look upon
 your grace and rejoice
 in our salvation.
 Help us to walk in
 that mighty grace
 and tell your good news
 to the world.
 All for your glory
 do we pray, Lord,
 Amen.

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

The Feast of Divine Mercy (established by St. Pope John Paul II) is celebrated on the Sunday after Easter each year. April 28, 2019 is a special day to reflect on God's love for us and to extend that love to one another. God's Mercy pours out in blood and water from his Sacred Heart and our compassion should flow out toward family, friends and especially those less fortunate in life. Our Lord's words to St Faustina Kowalska as recorded in her Diary are clear:

"I promise that the soul that will venerate this image will not perish. I also promise victory over its enemies already here on earth, especially at the hour of death. I Myself will defend it as My own glory."

The Divine Mercy Chaplet is prayed daily by many faithful believers. Often the chaplet is recited at the bed of the sick and the dying. To find out more about devotion to Jesus and the image of Divine Mercy, read the *Diary* of St Faustina or the *I am Your Jesus Of Mercy* series. Visit the Divine Mercy section of our website www.mosacks.com to shop for rosaries, medals, and Divine Mercy gifts.

CELEBRATE THE LOVE OF TWO HEARTS

Devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus (*June 28th*) became popular in the 17th

century through the mystic visions of St. Mary Margaret Alacoque. Christ reveals that His Sacred Heart, though wounded by our sins, is overflowing with mercy and love, a fount of heavenly gifts to all who honor Him in their home as a sign that the Heart of Jesus reigns over their family. Devotion to the Immaculate Heart of Mary (*June 29th*) was popularized by St. John Eudes in the 17th century. As Mary's heart was a fit dwelling place for the Holy Spirit at the Incarnation, we pray that we may be filled with that same Spirit and become worthy temples of God's glory.



The **Divine Mercy image** is a depiction of Jesus based on the devotion initiated by Saint Faustina Kowalska.

"Paint an image according to the pattern you see, with the signature: "Jesus, I trust in You". I desire that this image be venerated, first in your chapel, and then throughout the world. I promise that the soul that will venerate this image will not perish."

Jesus is shown raising his right hand in blessing, and pointing with his left hand on his chest from which flow forth two rays: one red and one white (translucent). The depictions often contains the message "Jesus, I trust in You!". The rays streaming out have symbolic meaning: red for the blood of Jesus (which is the Life of Souls), and pale for the water (which justify souls) (*from Diary - 299*). The whole image is symbolic of charity, forgiveness and love of God, referred to as the "Fountain of Mercy". According to the diary of St Faustina, the image is based on her 1931 vision of Jesus.

Our Model as a Disciple

Mary followed the teachings of her Son, Jesus. At the wedding feast of Cana she asked him to perform a miracle instructing the servants to “do whatever He tells you”. Mary is present in the heart-wrenching agony of the crucifixion and death of Jesus. From the cross, Jesus gave the care of His Mother to John and entrusted John and all of us to her motherly protection. Mary is believed to have traveled with John to Ephesus, in modern day Turkey. A small house in the hills above the historic ruins of the city is venerated as Mary’s House. Three popes have journeyed to this pilgrimage site; it is known as a place of healing and peace.

Our Model as a Woman of Faith.....

Jesus’ practice of and understanding of the Jewish faith as recorded in the New Testament points to the fact that His parents were observant members of the people of Israel. Mary and Joseph followed the Jewish religion in their home – following the Torah keeping the Sabbath, holy days and festivals, and attending the synagogue. Luke depicts Mary praying with the other women in the Upper Room at Pentecost, establishing her as a prominent member of the early Christian community in Jerusalem.



Our Mother.....

The Gospels tell us that Mary was a peasant woman who became a mother at a young age. She was a woman of integrity who when faced with the awesome responsibility of becoming the Mother of God, said yes without hesitation. Mary experienced many of the same joys and challenges as parents today. In Luke’s gospel we read of her anxiety when Jesus was lost in the Temple for three days. What panic she and Joseph must have felt! When found, Jesus tells them not to worry for He was in His Father’s house. Relieved at finding Jesus safe, Mary “kept all these things in her heart”. She treasured His words of faith and commitment to God.



MAY CELEBRATION
Spiritual Bouquet to honor Mary in your home

A Spiritual Bouquet consists of prayers and deeds offered as a special gift. During the month of May, give Mary a spiritual bouquet in thanksgiving, for a special request, or simply to honor her example of faith.

As a reminder cover the kitchen or dining room table with a blue cloth, place a statue of Mary in the center with one or more candles aside of it. Lay a rosary at the base of the statue and keep a vase of fresh flowers there to remind you of your spiritual bouquet.

How to Find Time to Pray the Rosary:



The Rosary is a favorite Catholic Devotion. It is said that if you know the mysteries of the Rosary, you know the Gospel of Jesus Christ. As such, it is a great way to teach the foundation of our faith to our families. With the friendly chaos of our home life, it can be difficult to find time to eat dinner together let alone pray the rosary! Here are some ways to integrate this beautiful prayer into your daily routine:

Pray the rosary as you work out – while your mind is cleared and free of distractions you can feel focused.

Divide the Rosary into decades and find small chunks of time while running errands, doing housework or laundry to pray a decade.

Pray on the way to work, or school – the 10-15 minute drive can be a quiet time of prayer instead of a harried trip.

A PRAYER FOR MOTHERS

All-Loving God, we give you thanks and praise for mothers old and young.

We pray for young mothers, who give life and count toes and tend to our every need; may they be blessed with patience and tenderness to care for their families and themselves with great joy.

We pray for our own mothers who have nurtured and cared for us; may they continue to guide in strong and gentle ways.

We remember mothers who are separated from their children because of war, poverty or conflict; may they feel the loving embrace of our God who wipes every tear away.

We pray for women who are not mothers but still love and shape us with motherly care and compassion.

We remember mothers, grandmothers and great-grandmothers who are no longer with us but who live forever in our memory and nourish us with their love. Amen

By Heidi Busse

A PRAYER FOR FATHERS

God our Father, we give you thanks and praise for fathers young and old. We pray for young fathers, newly embracing their vocation; may they find the courage and perseverance to balance work, family, and faith in joy and sacrifice.

We pray for our own fathers who have supported and challenged us; may they continue to lead in strong and gentle ways. We remember fathers around the world whose children are lost or suffering; may they know that the God of compassion walks with them in their sorrow.

We pray for men who are not fathers but still mentor and guide us with fatherly love and advice. We remember fathers, grandfathers, and great-grandfathers who are no longer with us but who will live forever in our memory and nourish us with their love. Amen

by Heidi Busse



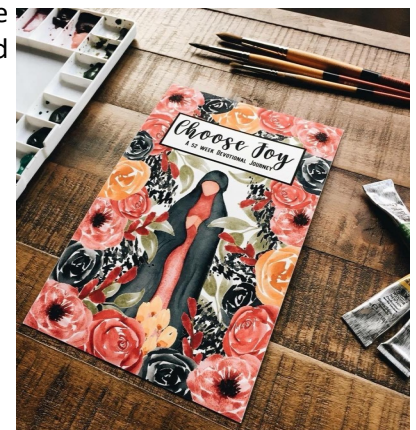
BOOK REVIEW: CHOOSE JOY A 52 Week Devotional Journey Brooke Taylor

God created us to need a community, a circle of friends to encourage, support, love, and lift each other up in the dark times, to rally around and celebrate the milestones in the good times. Choose Joy by Brooke Taylor pulls together an ecumenical team of Christian writers who share their reflections and help the reader form their own circle of friends. The book includes 52 devotions (one for each week of the year) which begin with a scripture reading, share a life story, and provide reflective questions for discussion. Readers are encouraged to :

- Grab a cup of tea or coffee
- Read the scripture passage and put yourself into the story.
- Pray and invite the Holy Spirit to “use your pen (or colored pencils, watercolors, markers) to uncover, reveal, inspire, and surprise you with an insight or discernment”
- Reflect on the questions either individually or with a group

How different would your life be if you start each day determined to *choose joy!* In the words of Saint Mother Teresa of Calcutta:

Joy is prayer
 Joy is strength
 Joy is love
 Joy is a net of love
 By which you can catch souls.



FIRST HOLY COMMUNION CELEBRATIONS

GIFTS & RESOURCES

AVAILABLE ITEMS INCLUDE:

Communion Dresses * Suits * Veils * Gloves * Socks * Purses
Ties * Tie Clips * Lapel Pins * Jewelry * Patron Saint Medals
Four-Way Medals * Sports Medals * Rosaries * Rosary Boxes

Wall Crosses & Crucifixes* Statues * Figurines * Valencia
Seraphim Classics Angels * Joseph Studio Collection St. Statues
* Willow Tree * Precious Moments* Communion Dolls
Plaques * Music Boxes * Holy Cards * Communion,
Confirmation and RCIA Candles

Adult & Children's Books & Music * Prayer Books
New Missals * Bibles for All Ages

Communion & Confirmation Photo Frames & Photo Albums
Invitations * Thank You Notes * Party Goods
Greeting Cards



As First Communion season approaches this year, we invite you to visit our Catholic Store or shop online at www.mosacks.com. Find the items and gifts that will help your family members and friends on their journey with Christ. Our embossing and engraving service is very affordable and adds a personal touch to your keepsakes. Our courteous staff is looking forward to serving you!

PRAYER FOR THOSE WHO SERVE

*Almighty God, we stand before You
asking for Your Divine Mercy and protection.
Embrace with Your invincible armor
our loved ones in all branches of the service.*

*Give them courage and strength
against all enemies both spiritual and physical
and hasten their safe journey
back to their homes and families
Amen.*



REMEMBER TO HONOR THOSE WHO SERVE PROUDLY

Every day men and women put their lives on the line in service to their country. As we celebrate Armed Forces Day on May 20th, Memorial Day on May 29th, and Flag Day on June 14th, we stand in gratitude for their dedication and their sacrifice.

Mosack's provides a wide range of flags made in the U.S.A. including United States flags, military flags, state flags, foreign flags, logo flags, religious flags, sports flags, and message flags. We also carry presentation sets, parade flags and patriotic bunting. Memorial flag display cases are large enough to hold 5' x 9.5' flags. In addition, MOSACK'S sells commercial aluminum flagpoles and residential aluminum flag-poles in a variety of finishes and sizes and fiberglass flagpoles in a variety of sizes. We also have a complete line of telescoping flag-poles. Other flag and flagpole accessories outdoor flags and indoor flag sets are also available.

We are constantly adding to our wide variety of flags and accessories. Please contact us for availability of other flags and flagpoles. We look forward to serving you!

CONFIRMED IN THE HOLY SPIRIT

WISDOM is the first and highest gift of the Holy Spirit because it is the perfection of the theological virtue of faith. Through wisdom, we come to value properly those things which we believe through faith. The truths of Christian belief are more important than the things of this world, and wisdom helps us to order our relationship to the created world properly, loving Creation for the sake of God, rather than for its own sake.

UNDERSTANDING is the second gift of the Holy Spirit, and people sometimes have a hard time understanding (*no pun intended*) how it differs from wisdom. While wisdom is the desire to contemplate the things of God, understanding allows us to grasp, at least in a limited way, the very essence of the truths of the Catholic faith. Through understanding, we gain a certitude about our beliefs that moves beyond faith.

COUNSEL, the third gift, is the perfection of the virtue of prudence. Prudence can be practiced by anyone, but counsel is supernatural. Through this gift of the Holy Spirit, we are able to judge how best to act almost by intuition. Because of the gift of counsel, Christians need not fear to stand up for the truths of the faith, because the Holy Spirit will guide us in defending those truths.

FORTITUDE is ranked as the fourth gift of the Holy Spirit because it gives us the strength to follow through on the actions suggested by the gift of counsel. While fortitude is sometimes called *courage*, it goes beyond what we normally think of as courage. Fortitude is the virtue of the martyrs that allows them to suffer death rather than to renounce the Christian Faith.

KNOWLEDGE, the fifth gift, is often confused with both wisdom and understanding. Like wisdom, knowledge is the perfection of faith, but whereas wisdom gives us the desire to judge all things according to the truths of the faith, knowledge is the actual ability to do so. Like counsel, it is aimed at our actions in this life. In a limited way, knowledge allows us to see the circumstances of our life the way that God sees them. Through this gift of the Spirit, we can determine God's purpose for our lives and live accordingly.

PIETY, the sixth gift, is the perfection of the virtue of religion. While we tend to think of religion today as the external elements of our faith, it really means the willingness to worship and to serve God. Piety takes that willingness beyond a sense of duty so that we desire to worship God and to serve Him out of love, the way that we desire to honor our parents and do what they wish.

FEAR OF THE LORD, the seventh and final gift of the Holy Spirit is often misunderstood. We think of fear and hope as opposites, but the fear of the Lord confirms the theological virtue of hope. This gift of the Holy Spirit gives us the desire not to offend God, as well as the certainty that God will supply us the grace that we need in order to keep from offending Him. Our desire not to offend God is more than simply a sense of duty; like piety, the fear of the Lord arises out of love.



Once again, we come to the time of year when catechumens, candidates, and students receive the Sacrament of Confirmation. This important step toward full initiation as adult believers brings powerful gifts of the Holy Spirit. Read through the list at the left side of this page to welcome these graces –or to refresh your memory if you have already been confirmed!

MOSACK'S carries a wide selection of Patron Saint medals, statues, biographies and holy cards perfect for Confirmation Students and RCIA Candidates. Bibles, Prayer Books, Crucifixes, Rosaries and other inspirational items are wonderful gifts to encourage new found faith. Visit us online at www.mosacks.com for a look at our selection of Confirmation Gifts.



GRADUATE'S PRAYER

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." Jeremiah 29:11

Father, I have knowledge,
so will You show me now,
how to use it wisely and find a way somehow
to make the world I live in a little better place,
and make life with its problems
a little bit easier to face.

Grant me faith and courage
and put purpose in my days,
and show me how to serve Thee in effective ways,
so my education, my knowledge and my skill
may find their true fulfillment as I learn to do Thy will.

And may I ever be aware in everything I do,
that knowledge comes from learning,
and wisdom comes from You.

Amen.



Wedding and Anniversary Gifts

MOSACK'S has a wide selection of Wedding and Anniversary Gifts to highlight your special day. Choose from our selection of Unity Candles, Crosses, Frames, Precious Moment Figurines, Music Boxes and more. Personalize your selection by adding a name, date and/or a special message.

HAPPY SPRING!



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